

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

102 4944545
Claim 1 (currently amended): A structural beam member for use in forming a frame for an architectural structure, comprising:

an ~~extruded~~ elongated load bearing element having a plurality of ~~inner~~ walls, each of said plurality of walls including an interior surface and an exterior surface;

~~an elongated reinforcement slat slidably connected to at least one of said plurality of inner walls; and~~

a plurality of elongated ~~projections~~ rails fixedly connected to a central portion of said interior surface of a first at least one of said plurality of inner walls, said slat connected to said at least one of said plurality of inner walls by said plurality of elongated projections; and

an elongated reinforcement slat defining a plurality of elongated channels that receive the plurality of rails when said reinforcement slat is connected to the plurality of rails.

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Claim 2 (currently amended): The member of claim 1, wherein the load bearing element beam has a generally rectangular cross-section.

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Claim 3 (original): The member of claim 1, wherein the reinforcement slat is made of metal.

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Claim 4 (original): The member of claim 1, wherein the reinforcement slat defines at least one secondary projection for receiving a secondary reinforcement slat.

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Claim 5 (currently amended): A structural member for making an architectural frame, said structural member comprising:

an elongated element having a plurality of walls, each of said plurality of walls including an inner surface and an outer surface;

a plurality of elongated rails fixedly connected to a central portion of said outer surface of a first one of said plurality of walls ~~the outer surface of at least one of said outer walls defining at least one anchoring member;~~ and

corrugations comprise rails/channels

a reinforcement slat defining a plurality of elongated channels that receive the plurality of elongated rails when said reinforcement slat is connected to the plurality of rails ~~adapted to be connected to said anchoring member, said slat defining at least one female receptors for receipt of said at least one anchoring member.~~

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Claim 6 (original): The member of claim 5, wherein said element has a generally rectangular cross-section

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Claim 7 (original): The member of claim 6, wherein the reinforcement slat is made of metal.

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Claim 8 (currently amended): A support member for use in forming a frame for an architectural structure comprising:

a generally rectangular, hollow, elongated beam ^{Sec Fig 2 (4,6,8)} having a plurality of walls, each of said plurality of walls including an interior surface and an exterior surface;

a plurality of elongated ⁵ rails integrally attached to a central region of an interior surface of a first one of the plurality of walls of the beam;

a reinforcing insert having a length coincident with or less than a length of the beam and defining a plurality of elongated channels ⁽⁶⁾ that receive the plurality of rails when said reinforcement slat is connected to the plurality of rails[[:]]

~~at least one elongated connecting rail integrally attached to an interior wall of the beam;~~
and

~~an elongated channel defined by the reinforcing insert adapted to engage in inter fitting relation with said rail.~~

Claim 9 (cancelled)

X Claim 10 (currently amended): The member of claim 8, wherein each of the elongated rails ~~rail~~ and each of the elongated channels ~~channel~~, when viewed in cross-section, flare outwardly at a common end thereof.

X Claim 11 (currently amended): The member of claim 10 wherein the reinforcing ~~member~~ insert is made of metal.

X Claim 12 (original): The member of claim 11 wherein the beam is made of metal.

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cont. B1
Claim 13 (currently amended): A method of reinforcing a support member that is used to form a frame for an architectural structure, comprising:

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providing an extruded hollow beam that includes a plurality of interconnected walls, at least one of the plurality of walls including a plurality of projecting ~~lugs~~ ^{Colored} elongated rails integrally connected to a central portion of an inside surface thereof;

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providing a reinforcing ^Cinsert defining a plurality of ~~recesses~~ elongated channels adapted to mate in inter-fitting engagement with said plurality of ~~lugs~~ rails; and

connecting the insert to the beam by inter-fitting the ~~lugs~~ plurality of rails within the ~~recesses~~ the plurality of channels, the insert being sized and positioned relative to the beam in accordance with engineering calculations which determine the expected distribution of forces along the beam.

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Claim 14 (original): The method of claim 13, further including the step of incorporating a plurality of such beams into an architectural structure.

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Claim 15 (original): The method of claim 13, wherein the reinforcing insert is made of metal.

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Claim 16 (original): An extruded bracing member for use in forming a frame for an architectural structure, said bracing member comprising a rectangular strut having ⁽¹⁰⁾ four walls ¹²⁻¹⁵ defining an interior space, each wall meeting at a corner intersection, and a transverse web ^{14,17} extending from one corner intersection to a diagonally opposite corner intersection.

cont.
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Claim 17 (new): The member of claim 16, wherein the strut and the web are extruded. ^{method}

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Claim 18 (new): The member of claim 16, wherein the member forms a support member for an interconnected arrangement of extruded ^{shows wood} beams.

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Claim 19 (new): The member of claim 16, wherein the strut and the web are made of metal.